

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 7-8, 13-14, 19-20, 23-25, 28, 30-31, 30, 35, and 40 are rejected under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Eggleton et al., U.S. 6,201,916. In addition, claims 3, 4, 9-10, 15-16, 21-22, 27, 29, 32, 34, 37, 39, 42, and 44 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten into independent form.

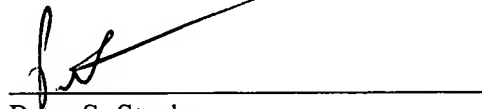
In response thereto, Applicants have now amended independent claims 1, 7, 13, and 19 to include the allowable limitations of claims 3, 4, 9, 10, 15, 16, 21, and 22, respectively.

Eggleton et al. '916 simply does not teach or suggest the limitations now recited in all the independent claims. Specifically, Eggleton '916 does not teach or suggest wherein said cladding structure and core region define a photonic crystal fiber and wherein said photonic crystal fiber comprises a Holey fiber or omniguide fiber. Thus, all of the pending claims are now deemed to be allowable.

The application is now considered to be in condition for allowance, and an early indication of same is requested.

If the Examiner has any questions regarding matters pending in this application, please feel free to contact the undersigned below.

Respectfully submitted,



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